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February 14, 1979

Dear Senator Chiles:

Thank you for your letter of January 16, 1979, concerning a request by one of your constituents, Mr. Jack Duncan, for information about the People's Temple ham radio operation.

The People's Temple used amateur short wave radios to communicate between their Georgetown and Jonestown offices. They also communicated by ham radio between their United States affiliate in San Francisco and the agricultural community at Jonestown, Guyana. The People's Temple did not have access to Embassy communications facilities as a private organization.

The Department is not in a position to investigate or to comment about the legality of their radio operations which would fall within the purview of the Federal Communications Commission.

I trust that the above information is helpful to your constituent. If you have any further questions, you may wish to contact Mr. Richard McCoy, Officer-in-Charge of Guyanese Affairs whose telephone number is 632-1449.

Sincerely,

GW

Douglas J. Bennet, Jr.
Assistant Secretary for
Congressional Relations

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

PREVIEWED BY [signature] DATE 2/27/81

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Enclosure:

Correspondence returned.

The Honorable
Lawton Chiles,
Federal Building,
Lakeland, Florida

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ARA:JABushnell
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